

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PER-01 SIG-01 A-01  
MMO-01 EB-08 SCA-01 IO-13 INR-07 PM-04 CU-02  
/065 W

-----011010Z 130700 /22

R 0901450Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9052

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 TANANARIVE 0591

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT PFOR MA  
SUBJECT: PARM - ANNUAL POLICY AND RESOURCES ASSESSMENT -  
PARTS II AND III

REFS: (A) STATE 038356, (B) STATE 038338, (C) STATE  
050086, (D) CERP 0001

### II. RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

A. STATE. THERE ARE FIVE STATE EMPLOYEES AT THIS POST.  
IN THE ABSENCE OF AN AMBASSADOR, THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AI  
HANDLES MOST OF THE POLITICAL REPORTING AND THE CONTACTS WITH  
THE HOST GOVERNMENT ON SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS. THE LATTER  
INCLUDE SPECIFICALLY THE ISSUE OF NASA BUT CAN ALSO COVER  
CONSULAR, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND ECONOMIC MATTERS, AS DECISIONS  
ON MANY SUBJECTS OFTEN HAVE TO BE MADE AT A HIGH LEVEL OF THE  
DRM. THE ECON:COMMERCIAL OFFICER IS ALSO ACTING DCM. HE ASSISTS  
IN POLITICAL REPORTING AND IS SPECIFICALLY EXPECTED TO CARRY

THE BRUNT OF ANY DEALINGS WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT ON THE MATTER  
OF COMPENSATION TO THE NATIONALIZED OIL COMPANIES.  
THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER DIRECTS A STAFF OF 19 LOCAL  
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NATIONALS AND OVERSEES COMMUNICATIONS AND SECURITY. HE IS IN  
ADDITION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RESIDUAL CUSTODY OF NASA PROPERTY,  
PENDING ITS FINAL DISPOSITION. THE CHARGE'S SECRETARY TYPES  
AND HANDLES ALL CLASSIFIED MATERIAL FOR THE EMBASSY, ASSISTS  
THE CHARGE IN HIS EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS, AND IS THE BACKUP

COMMUNICATOR. A COMMUNICATOR COMPLETES THE STATE COMPLE-  
MENT.

RESOURCES ARE FFOCUSED INASMUCH AS POSSIBLE ON OUR  
STATED OBJECTIVES. THE TIME AVAILABLE FOR THIS IS SOMETIMES  
LIMITED IN A MISSION OF THIS SIZE BY THE PERFORMANCE OF  
STATUTORILY-REQUIRED TASKS OR SPOT REQUESTS FOR ACTION IN THE  
COMMERCIAL, CONSULAR, AND POLITICAL FIELDS. REPROGRAMMING,  
OR RATHER WORK ASSIGNMENTS IN THE CASE OF THIS POST, IS DONE  
WHenever SUCH DEVELOPMENTS MAKE IT NECESSARY. SOME REPROGRAMM-  
ING HAS RECENTLY BEEN REQUIRED BY THE ELIMINATION OF THE  
POST'S CONSULAR OFFICER POSITION. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND  
CONSULAR FIELDS THE WORK IS GREATER THAN WOULD NORMALLY  
BE THE CASE FROM THE FACT THAT THE EMBASSY AND THE OFFICIAL  
AMERICAN PRESENCE HERE USED TO BE CONSIDERABLY LARGER.  
THIS HAS LEFT A GREAT DEAL OF RESIDUAL WORK, WHICH IS NOT  
THE CASE FOR SMALL MISSIONS WHICH HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THE SAME  
SIZE.

B. OTHER AGENCY PROGRAMS AND RESOURCE LEVELS. THE  
PRESENCE OF A TWO-MAN DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE (DAO) IN THIS  
SMALL POST IS HIGHLY USEFUL FOR THREE REASONS: THE ONLY  
SIGNIFICANT US INTEREST IN THE COUNTRY IS THE FUTURE  
OF ITS FOREIGN MILITARY ASSOCIATIONS; THE GOVERNMENT, UP TO  
AND INCLUDING THE CHIEF OF STATE, HAS BEEN, SINCE 1972. IN  
THE HANDS OF MILITARY MEN; AND THE DAO PROVIDES AN EXTRA  
INTELLIGENCE AND REPORTING RESOURCE WHICH TO SOME EXTENT  
COMPENSATES FOR THE MINIMAL DEPARTMENT OF STATE STAFFING.  
THE DAO IS FULLY INTEGRATED INTO THE WORK OF THE EMBASSY,  
AND ITS RESOURCES ARE FOCUSED ON THE MISSION'S OBJECTIVES.

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THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER AND THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
OFFICER DIRECT A SUBSTANTIAL CULTURAL PROGRAM WHICH, AS  
PREVIOUSLY STATED, IS THE CUTTING EDGE OF OUR PRESENCE IN  
MADAGASCAR. IN THE ABSENCE OF AN AID PROGRAM, AND SINCE  
THE CLOSURE OF THE NASA STATION, THE PROGRAM IS THE MOST VISIBLE  
MANIFESTATION OF CONTINUED US INTEREST IN THIS COUNTRY AND  
PROVIDES AT THIS TIME A PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE COUNTERPOINT  
TO THE RESERVED US POLICY ADOPTED LAST YEAR IN REACTION TO  
MALAGASY ACTIONS/ AS THE CULTURAL PROGRAM IS CITED AS ONE OF  
OUR MAJOR COURSES OF ACTION, IT RECEIVES PRIORITY ATTENTION.  
IT SHOULD BE THE LAST PROGRAM CUT, GIVEN THE PARTICULAR  
CIRCUMSTANCES OF MALAGASY-US RELATIONS.

### III. STATE PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

A. REPROGRAMMING. NO REPROGRAMMING IS POSSIBLE WITHIN  
THIS MINIMALLY-MANNED POST, EXCEPT FOR AD HOC REDISTRIBUTION

OF SPECIFIC TASKS TO MEET UNEXPECTED WORKLOADS IN ONE FUNCTION OR ANOTHER. A REDUCTION IN VOLUNTARY REPORTING ON LABOR AND POPULATION MATTERS WILL PROBABLY RESULT FROM THE MOST RECENT STAFF REDUCTION.

B. INCREASES/DECREASES. SINCE THE LAST PARA WAS SUBMITTED IN APRIL 1976, IT WAS DECIDED LAST OCTOBER NOT TO APPOINT AN AMBASSADOR TO TANANARIVE AND EARLY THIS YEAR TO ELIMINATE THE CONSULAR OFFICER POSITION. THE NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIVE STATE OFFICERS AT THIS POST HAS THUS BEEN REDUCED FROM FOUR TO TWO. I BELIEVE THAT US INTERESTS WOULD BE BETTER SERVED, UNTIL SUCH TIME AS IT IS DECIDED TO NAME AN AMBASSADOR, BY THE APPOINTMENT OF A POLITICAL OFFICER. THIS WOULD ASSIST THE CHARGE IN HIS POLITICAL FUNCTIONS, SPECIFICALLY IN FOLLOWING ANY FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN MADAGASCAR'S FOREIGN AND MILITARY POLICY AND IN PURSUING THE OBJECTIVE OF A CLOSER BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. IT WOULD ALSO PERMIT THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICER TO DEVOTE MORE OF HIS TIME TO REDRESSING THE TRADE IMBALANCE  
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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PER-01 SIG-01 A-01

MMO-01 EB-08 SCA-01 IO-13 INR-07 PM-04 CU-02

/065 W

-----011012Z 130786 /11

R 0901450Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9053

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 TANANARIVE 0591

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BETWEEN MADAGASCAR AND THE US. THE ADDED OFFICER WOULD

ALSO PERFORM PART OF THE CONSULAR FUNCTIONS AND HELP THE EMBASSY TO ADJUST TO THE IMMINENT LOSS OF ITS CONSULAR OFFICER.

AS THE NORMAL DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICER COMPLEMENT OF THIS POST IS FIVE, INCLUDING AN AMBASSADOR, THE ADDITION OF A POLITICAL OFFICER IN THE ABSENCE OF AN AMBASSADOR WOULD NOT INCREASE THE PERSONNEL RESOURCES OF THIS POST OVER THE PROJECTED FY'78 LEVEL, AND WOULD THEREFORE RESPECT THE STRICTURE SET FORTH IN PARA 9, REF A. THE POSITION COULD BE ELIMINATED WHEN AN AMBASSADOR IS ASSIGNED.

C. LOWER PRIORITY POSITIONS. NO SUBMISSION IS MADE ON THIS SUBJECT AS THERE ARE FEWER THAN 12 AMERICAN POSITIONS HERE.

#### MISSION STAFFING CHART.

AGENCY/	CURRENT FY'77		
FUNCTION	AMERICAN	AMERICAN	FSL
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--	OFFICERS	STAFF	STAFF
EXECUTIVE	1	1	2
POL/CONS		1	
ECON/COM'L	1		2
ADMIN (OF WHICH)	1 (CORE)		16 (1 DAS)
COMMUNICATION	1 (CORE)		2 (DAS)
SECURITY		6 (CORE)	1/

#### OTHER AGENCIES

USIS	2	12
DOD	2	1

AGENCY/	PROJECTED FY'79		
FUNCTION	AMERICAN	AMERICAN	FSL
--	OFFICERS	STAFF	STAFF

EXECUTIVE	2 2/	2 2/	2
POL/CONS		1	
ECON/COM'L	1		2
ADMIN (OF WHICH)	1 (CORE)		16 (1 DAS)
COMMUNICATION	1 (CORE)		2 (CORE)
SECURITY		6 (CORE)	1/

1/ MARINE SECURITY GUARDS

2/ ASSUMING PRESENCE OF AN AMBASSADOR.

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* STADIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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